



## FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND CONSUMER SERVICES

COMMISSIONER WILTON SIMPSON

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### **CARAMBOLA TO CALIFORNIA AND TEXAS CARIBBEAN FRUIT FLY PROTOCOL PROGRAM EASY STEP CERTIFICATION PROCEDURES**

#### **Grower Participation:**

- Apply for **new** Designated Areas by submitting Application for Participation form to Protocol office by January 1. Qualification will be determined by FDACS inspectors according to the Carambola Protocol.
- Thirty days prior to harvest, sign Protocol agreement and notify Protocol office to establish traps.
- Begin bait spray program as defined in the Carambola Protocols:
  - California only – Begin spray 30 days prior to harvest, spray every 7-10 days until harvest complete; minimum of four sprays required before certification
  - Texas only – Begin spray 28 days prior to harvest, spray every 7-14 days until harvest complete

#### **Harvesting:**

- At least one week prior to harvest, contact the Protocol office to sign compliance agreement.
- One business day before harvest, call Protocol office to verify certification and schedule harvesting inspection.
- Field containers shall contain fruit from only one Designated Area/Carambola.
- Each conveyance traveling by roadway shall be accompanied by a trip ticket containing information as provided for in the compliance agreement.
- Fruit that has dropped or spilled on the ground shall never be placed in a container with certified fruit, otherwise the entire container shall be considered contaminated and NOT CERTIFIED.

#### **Packinghouse:**

- At least 30 days prior to harvest, packinghouse representative shall contact the Protocol office to initiate survey for qualification and to sign compliance agreement.
- At least one business day prior to packing certified fruit, packinghouse representative shall notify the Protocol office to schedule inspection.
- When fruit arrives at the packinghouse, Designated Area identification shall be checked and verified against trapping report.
- There shall be adequate space separating certified and non-certified fruit in the coolers, and on the floor.
- Before certified fruit is run, all packing lines shall be checked for fruit from previous run. No fruit shall remain that could jeopardize the certification of the fruit to be run.
- Each carton of certified fruit must be legibly labeled with the wording Designated Area, the area identification and harvest date.

Example:            Designated Area: LE-2  
                         Harvest Date: (date fruit harvested)

#### **Billing:**

Participation is billed at \$4.00 per acre, per month, commencing on trap set date until trap removal at the participant's request. A grove may be of varying acreage but the minimum billed shall be no less than 40 acres.

**For more information:** Contact our office at **(772) 241-6360**